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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,021	01/08/2001	F. Ivy Carroll	2025-0178-0	3556

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EXAMINER

TRUONG, TAMTHOM NGO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1624

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/755,021

Applicant(s)

CARROLL ET AL.

Examiner

Tamthom N. Truong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6, 10.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group III in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that no example or explanation provided for the four groups to be considered as "independent inventions", and no burden of searching. The traversal has not been found persuasive for the following reasons:

- a. The compounds in each group are individual chemical entity that can be utilized alone, and do not have to be used in combination of each other.
- b. The combination of ring systems represented by variable R₁ and R₆ allows for an extensive (and expensive) on-line search.
- c. A search on the core of 'phenyl-piperidinyl' ring alone would yield an incomplete search, which would result in missing potential relevant prior art.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The following reasons apply:

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- a. In claims 1, 7 and 13, the definitions of X_1 , X_2 , Y_1 - Y_3 , and R_7 - R_{17} include a series of moieties and functional groups, which are unclear if they are alternatives. It appears that the word "or" (in front of the last group) is missing from said definitions.
- b. Claims 3-5, 9-11, and 15-17 lack antecedent basis because they recite a proviso, which is not recited in independent claims 1, 7, and 13. Also, said claims recite the phrase "as indicated above" or "as noted above", which seems to refer to other claims as well as claims 1, 7, or 13. Thus, their dependency is also unclear.
- c. Claims 6, 12 and 18 are incomplete as chemical name or structure is not recited in said claims.
- d. Claims 2, 8, 14, and 19-21 are rejected as being dependent on claims 1, 7, or 13, and carrying over limitations of claims 1, 7, or 13.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 22 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Said claim is recited a species that is not taught or suggested in the prior arts of record.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On pages 5 and 17, the definitions of X_1 , X_2 , Y_1 - Y_3 , and R_7 - R_{17} include a series of moieties and functional groups,

which are unclear if they are alternatives. It appears that the word "or" (in front of the last group) is missing from said definitions.

Appropriate correction is required.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 5-23-02 has been considered by the examiner.

6. The information disclosure statement filed 01-13-03 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because its citation is incomplete (author, title, etc.). It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609 ¶ C(1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tamthom N. Truong whose telephone number is 703-305-4485. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund Shah can be reached on 703-308-4716. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-4556 for regular communications and 703-308-4556 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.



Tamthom N. Truong

Examiner

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February 9, 2003